

Message Text

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16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P R 250520Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5668

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 6352

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, PINR, LA, US

SUBJECT: LAO GOVERNMENT PROTEST OF ALLEGED OVERFLIGHTS

REF: A) FBIS BANGKOK 111330Z NOV 75

B) VIENTIANE 6243 (NOTAL)

C) STATE 275785 (NOTAL)

1. NOVEMBER 25 WE RECEIVED FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE NO.
479/AE.AP WHICH READS IN TRANSLATION AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PRO-
VISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF LAOS PRESENTS
ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM IT OF THE FOLLOWING:

NOVEMBER 6, 1975 AN AMERICAN JET AIRPLANE TAKING
OFF FROM THE AMERICAN BASE LOCATED IN THAILAND CARRIED
OUT TWO RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS OVER THE AIR SPACE OF
LAOS IN THE PROVINCE OF LUANG PRABANG.

THIS ACT CONSTITUTES A FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE
SOVEREIGNTY OF LAOS.

THE MINISTRY VIGOROUSLY CONDEMNS THIS ACTION AND
REQUESTS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO PUT
AN END TO ALL ILLEGAL OVERFLIGHTS BY ITS AIRPLANES
OVER LAO TERRITORY.

THE MINISTRY TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO
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THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSUR-

ANCES OF ITS HIGH CONSIDERATION.

VIENTIANE, NOVEMBER 21, 1975. UNQUOTE.

2. IN THE LIGHT OF REFERENCE C WE PROPOSE, SUBJECT
TO THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, TO REPLY TO THE MINISTRY
AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION
OF LAOS AND HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF
THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 479/AE.AP, THE TEXT OF WHICH
THE EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY COMMUNICATED TO THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS INSTRUCTED THE EMBASSY TO INFORM
THE MINISTRY THAT NO UNITED STATES RECONNAISSANCE
MISSIONS WERE FLOWN OVER LUANG PRABANG AND THAT NO
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT OF ANY TYPE OR ON ANY
MISSION WERE IN THE AREA OF LUANG PRABANG AS ALLEGED
IN THE MINISTRY'S NOTE.

COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENT: THE TIMING OF THIS NOTE SUGGESTS IT HAS
BEEN ORCHESTRATED WITH THE TOUGH LINE THE PGNU IS
TAKING ON THE MEKONG INCIDENT OF NOVEMBER 17-18.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS.
CORCORAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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